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GOOD LUCK TO THE GRADUATES

M ARGUS

SUPPORT SING!

Vol. XXXIX, No. 4 ... N. Y. February 5, 1960

HabermanHeads200 FebruaryGraduates; College Plans Made

By JOAN KANE

Midwood High School held commencement exercises for its mid-year senior graduating class Monday, February 1, at 1:30 P.M. in the school auditorium. Two hundred students comprise this class

Ethelou Haberman, the highest ranking senior with a 94 average, delivered the traditional farewell address. Jane Gruber the salutitorian of the class gave the welcoming address. Marlene Lederman read the Bible selection. Adele Hoffman, class president, presented the gift, a senior bulletin board, to the school.

The Midwood Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Tillis, and the Midwood Symphonic Band, under the leadership of Mr. Chancy, provided the musical selections for the graduation exercises.

Seniors received various awards for scholarship and character achievements. Among these were the departmental awards for high standards of scholarship in the individual subject areas, and a character award given to the outstanding student in the class as selected by the faculty.

BULLETIN

Seven Midwood students are semi-finalists in the annual Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

The Westinghouse Electric Company which sponsors the search chose 448 students throughout the country. Those from Midwood are: Howard **Feit,** Eugene **Gover,** David **Harris,** Marc **Levine,** Kathrine **Lubart,** Carol **Ruchlis,** and Harry **Saal.**

M. H. S. PREPARES FOR SING

By MERLE WEISS

Midwood's annual Sing productions will take place at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on Friday and Saturday nights, February 12 and 13.

This year, Lois Wasserspring is the commissioner of senior Sing. David Plavin is junior Sing commissioner, while Esther Spilberg and Sue Romer are the respective commissioners of sophomore and Kensington sings. Elizabeth Kline is the secretary of Sing, and Jeff Weiss, business manager.

Senior Sing chairman is Norma Padow with Ben Folkman co-chairman. Andrea Raifman and Carol Richland are leader and co-leader respectively. Senior Sing's pianists are Dave Horowitz and Lydia Prass.

The chairman and co-chairman of the junior Sing are Suzie Nyman and Linda Lee. Alan Dischel is leader and Pat Treib is the co-leader.

Iris Fisher is chairman of sophomore Sing while David Fleiss is co-chairman. The leader and co-leader are Rochelle Ratchik and Ellen Edelman respectively.

Heading Kenisington Sing as chairman and co-chairman respectively are Judy Rosenberg and Michael Miller. Leonard Raifman is the leader and Cheryl Resnick co-leader. Sue Peck and Lisa Goldstein are the secretaries; Bonnie Johnson the treasurer. The pianist is Eddie Raybin.

All the commissioners expressed confidence in the prospects of their individual groups. Lois Wasserspring, commissioner of senior Sing, last year's winners, commented that "if the results are as good as the effort the seniors put into this Sing, we (the Seniors) should have another winner."

"The juniors have a very clever Sing including witty songs and dialogue and have a very good chance of winning," said David Plavin.

Esther Spilberg commented, "If the Sophs keep up the enthusiasm they have displayed thus far, they can't help but put on a very good show."

Four Midwood faculty members will judge the performances each evening. As we go to press the following judges have been confirmed: Mr. Blatt, Mr. Dorf, Miss Feinstein, Miss Gewant, Mr. Kostman and Mr. Taplitz.

Says Mrs. Belle Tillis, faculty adviser, "We hope it (Sing) will be wonderful."

Nine Leave Faculty Three Profs Return As Semester Begins

By DONALD WATERS

With the beginning of the new term, several members of the Midwood faculty left for teaching posts at other city schools or went on sabbatical leaves of absence. In addition, at least three instructors returned to school from previous leaves.

The English department lost the services of Miss Marilyn Jacob, Miss Janet Handlin, and Miss Viola Randles, the first two through transfer, and the latter through leave. Miss Mona Cowen of the Social Studies department also left, as did math teacher, Mrs. Ruth Dutton.

Mrs. Bernice Bernstein of foreign language department left Midwood's Kensington Annex for another school as did Mrs. Schlossberg and Mr. Zutler, teachers of biology and general science, respectively.

Miss Edna Heiden of the art department left on sabbatical leave this term.

Among those teachers returning to Midwood from leaves are Mr. Michael Ross, industrial arts instructor; Mrs. Catherine Carajohn of the biology department, and Mrs. Rose Shapiro, teacher of secretarial studies.

The decrease in the Midwood staff was necessitated by a general decline in the number of students attending the school. In September, 1959, Midwood lost the services of twenty-six instructors through transfer and leave, while gaining only five replacements.

POLITICOS OUTLINE TERM

By MARION PFEFFER

Midwood students elected their new major city officers on December 18, 1959.

The electees took office at the beginning of this term. They include, mayor Steve Berman, comptroller Richard Lapin, executive secretary Rita Ingber, and Kensington coordinator Sara Rudner. The sixth term president is Suzy Nyman and the sixth term vice president is Alice Cashman. The fourth term president in the main building is Anita Levy. The fourth term president at Kensington is Peter Albert. The second term president is Jeff Nagelberg.

As spokesman for the new officers, the mayor elect said, "Just as at the end of each term we make a resolution to improve in our studies, we of the new administration make a firm resolution to uphold the fine reputation of the past administration and try our best to improve the fine workings of our student government."

To achieve this goal, Steve has many plans. He would like to revise our elections by having a political party system similar to the one used by several metropolitan high schools. This, he feels, would arouse more interest on the part of the student body.

L. to R., Steve Berman, Rita Ingber, Sara Rudner, and Richie Lapin.

The new mayor and the comptroller want to further the gains made in the fall term toward the organization of a G.O. Store. They hope to increase revenue also by having a Spring Concert Booklet Commission, similar to the Sing Booklet Commission.

Among the functions that the new mayor contemplates is an inter-school dance. Steve hopes to increase the attendance at such affairs through special attractions and wider publicity.

Steve feels that in order for a student government to be fully successful it must have full cooperation of the student body. He urges everyone to apply for the standing commissions or committees when the time comes for joining.

The new mayor says he would appreciate the help and interest of Midwood students. He stated, "If anyone has any suggestions, complaints, or would like to find out about the workings of student government he can drop a note in the suggestion box or contact me personally."

Forum Elects Five; Cooper Chosen Pres. Mazlen Elected V.P.

By STEVE SAIKIN

The members of the Social Studies Forum held their semi-annual elections, on Friday, January 15.

Kathy Lubart, in her last official duty as president of the Forum, opened the nominations for president. The nominees were: Matt Cooper, Joe Kendler, Carl Shames, and Lloyd Stabiner. Matt Cooper proved victorious in an extremely close election.

Before continuing with the nominations for vice-president, Miss Rita Gewant, faculty advisor of the Forum, commended Kathy on the excellent job she has done this past term in the capacity of president.

Newly elected Matt Cooper asked for nominations for the office of vice president. Richie Levin, Kenny Mazlin, Carl Shames and Steve Strausberg copped nominations. Kenny Mazlin was the winner.

Those slated for the office of secretary were: Richie Levin, Ann Levinson, Alan Ross and Steve Saikin. The Forum was asked to vote twice as the job of secretary was to be filled by two of the candidates. Ann Levinson and Richie Levin won, the latter filling Kathy Lubart's early request that a junior be elected to an office.

The last office to be filled was the member-at-large. Since some members did not know what this office stood for, Miss Gewant explained that the member-at-large would fill in for any member absent from the Forum. Students nominated for this post were: Herman Kotler, Jeffrey Merrill, and Ray Nevins. Jeff Merrill was victorious

The Social Studies Forum meets every Friday the eighth period in room 245. Those who voted in this election were members only. However, regular Forum meetings are open to all, and wide attendance is encouraged.

City Roundup . . . STUDENTS CONFER ON U.N.

Two Midwood students, Daniel Levine and Jeff Weiss, attended a press conference sponsored by the Metropolitan High School Council for the United Nations on the work of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on January 15. The guest speaker, Charles A. Hogan, is Executive Secretary of the Technical Assistance Committee. This committee conducts the economic development projects of U.N.

Mr. Hogan responded to the delegates' questions in a manner that Jeff Weiss described as "both sarcastic and realistic." An example of this was his comment on the attempts of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) to contribute funds to the T.A.C. He said that East Germany refused to aid the U.N. and "if they won't come to our party, we won't go to theirs." Again Mr. Hogan evidenced his "hard bitten attitude" when, in answering a question on the Soviet memorandum asking for freer European trade, he commented that "this is a long standing Soviet statement and a typical piece of their propaganda."

After the discussion with Mr. Hogan the students went across the street to hear the views of the American Foreign Field Service Representatives on some important issues.

The discussion carried on by these people ranged from an opinion of American teenagers to the need for or lack of need for dictatorship in underdeveloped nations. The girl from Rhodesia best summarized the views of these foreign teenagers on their American counterparts. Miss Bray said that, "Back home, we mostly go to the cinema or dances for entertainment. What we see at the cinema, the Hollywood version of the American teenager, we try to emulate (laughter). But, in my twenty days here, I found that American teenagers are quite normal." On the subject of dictatorships in underdeveloped countries, Irfan Majid of Pakistan commented that "we lived for many years under a democracy and it failed. It failed because 80% of the country is illiterate. Only a dictator can prepare an underdeveloped country for democracy." Opposing him, the representative from Ghana, Lordsfield Anani Dzidzienyo, commented that "the British left us with a parliamentary democracy and it is serving quite well. A few restraints must be exercised under this system but parliamentary democracy does work in underdeveloped areas."

The Midwood Choral Society held its semi-annual end-term party on Wednesday, January 20. Presiding as Master of Ceremonies was Michael Blosheld.

The party started with a short period of social dancing, followed by entertainers who are members of mixed chorus. Daniel Romanelli and Lydia Prass appeared in a short skit based on the activities of the music department. John Taliercio did a soft shoe, similar to a vaudeville routine. John Maher sang "Bless This House." The program ended with a few words from Mrs. B. Tillis, director of mixed chorus; Mr. N. G. Levine, former director of the mixed chorus, and Danny Romanelli, chorus president.

Judith Fleiss, seventh term president, is Midwood's winner of the 1960 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow contest.

She received the highest score in a fifty-minute written examination taken by graduating senior girls. In addition to her winning an award pin, her examination paper will be submitted for competition with other high school winners to determine the state Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow.

Each state winner will receive a $1,500 scholarship and an educational trip with her school advisor. The tour will include New York City and Colonial Williamsburg. It will culminate with the American Table Banquet in Washington, D. C., on April 28, at the Statler Hilton Hotel, at which time they will announce the winner.

The runner-up in each state will receive a $500 scholarship.

Several Midkids will participate in New York University's "1960 Prize Competition in the Natural Sciences." If they win, they will qualify for scholarships at N. Y. U. worth up to $2,400 yearly.

Fifth and sixth termers who expect to go to college and are interested in scholarships registered for the National Merit Exam during the first two weeks of January.

This year the three hour scholarship examination covering English usage, mathematical usage, social studies comprehension, natural science comprehension and word usage will be given on Saturday, March 19, 1960, and on Sunday, March 20, 1960.

Arista and Archon Elect New Officers For February Term

Arista, Midwood's scholastic honor society, and Archon, the school service honor organization, held their semi-annual elections, January 5 and 8, respectively.

Bob Ginsberg is both "leader-in-general" and boy leader of Arista, while Nancy Goldin is the girl leader. The three new Arista secretaries are Eva Penny, Barry Pressman and Ruth Wallach.

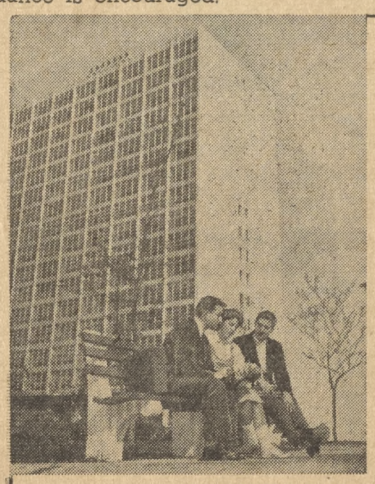
The boy and girl leaders of Archon are David Soskis and Ellen Reinhold. The organization's new secretaries are Phyllis Morel, Stephen Strausberg and Patricia Treib.

"We are proud to have received this honor and hope to further the recognition of those who have given their time and effort in service to Midwood.", stated David Soskis and Ellen Reinhold on behalf of the newly elected Archon officers.

Bob Ginsberg, speaking for the newly elected officers of Arista, stated that they " . . . will try to continue the excellent work begun by last term's five officers."

In addition to helping to proctor midterm exams with Archon members, some mid-kids in Arista tutor students who are having trouble with their courses.

Whereas Archon holds separate elections for girl and boy leader, Arista holds one co-ed election. The student who wins this election is the leader of Arista, in addition to being the boy or girl leader of the organization. If this person is a boy, as is the case this year, a new slate of girls is nominated, and the Arista members choose their girl leader from this slate.



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Councils Name F.D.R. Finalists; Campanella, Dooley and Twyman

By MATT SHEININ

At their last sessions before the winter holidays, Midwood's city councils chose three candidates for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Award. The candidates are Roy Campanella, Dr. Thomas Dooley, and Jack Twyman.

Ninety-six potential candidates were originally nominated in the social studies classes. The F.D.R. Commission did research on the nominees, and eliminated all but fourteen. The councils, in turn, rejected all but Mr. Campanella, Dr. Dooley, and Mr. Twyman.

Mr. Campanella, formerly catcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers, helped many colored baseball players overcome prejudice in the major leagues. Since retiring from active baseball because of injuries sustained in an accident, Roy has been working with youth groups to curb juvenile delinquency.

Dr. Dooley is a physician who has worked for some years in Vietnam and Laos. He ministered to 600,000 refugees during the recent war there, setting up hospitals and supplying them partially with his own money. After a recent visit to the United States for treatment of a cancer ailment, Dr. Dooley returned to Laos to heal the sick there.

Mr. Twyman, who plays basketball for the Cincinnati Royals, assumed responsibility for the welfare of his paralyzed friend and team-mate, Maurice Stokes. He has been supplying the helpless Stokes with the necessary cash for medical bills and other expenses.

The F.D.R. Award, sponsored by the City of Midwood, is given each year to a person who has helped to further the ideals of brotherhood. Its purpose is to make Midwood conscious of brotherhood through both publicity and the actual selection of candidates and winners by the student body.

The social studies classes will debate the relative merits of the three candidates on February 7 and 8. Members of the F.D.R. Commission will lead the discussions.

Rosenberg to Assist Chamber Players In ConcertPreparation

The Music Commission announced on January 15 that its chamber music groups will rehearse twice a week next term, under Mr. Rosenberg of the Music Department. The madrigal group, now in the process of organization, may also receive instruction, and the commission invites interested musicians to apply for this class in B-15.

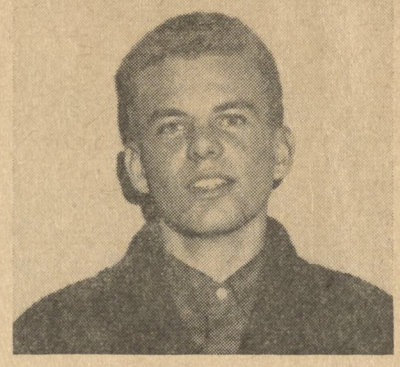
The Chamber Players originally met for a concert in the Music Lounge last May 27. Matt Sheinin, Music Commissioner, organized the recital.

This term, under the auspices of the Commission, the Chamber Players performed on several occasions. The big event was a full-length evening concert in the auditorium on November 13. Other schools were invited to this affair.

ARGUS SELECTS MEYERS

The staff of the Midwood Argus chose Roy Meyers to succeed Ruth Wallach as editor-in-chief. The group held its semi-annnual elections Thursday, January 20, in room 355.

Gary Engelberg and Harriet Warshauer, last term's associate news editors, moved up to the positions of news editors. Ellen Berman and Marion Pffeffer were the only reporters on the slate for associate news editors, and therefore won the offices without a vote.



Roy Meyers

On the feature staff, last term's associate editors, June Malament and Judy Padow became editors, replacing January Zisla Taice and Barbara Weiner, and Carol Amato, who ran for editor-in-chief. Jo Ann Frankel and Ellen Greene are the two associate feature editors. They filled the vacant positions left by June and Judy.

Last term's associate sports editor, Ken Kramer, took over Roy Meyers' position of sports editor. Leonard Berman is the new associate on this staff.

William Mazanek of the art staff graduated from Midwood January. He created the Argus cartoon character William J.

The Argus acquired twelve new reporters this term. They are Jeffry Bergstien, Amy Bookshin, Arnold Deerson, Bonnie Dobkin, Elizabeth Farber, Peter Feldman, Carol Levine, Robert Mohl, Donald Roth, Nicholas Rummo, Harvey Yaverbaum, Judith Cantor, and Beth Silverman.

Roy Meyers, the new editor-in-chief, has been tentatively accepted to Brown University. He was last term's sports editor and is a member of the tennis team.

The other candidates for editor were: Carol Amato, and Abby Wettan last term's news editor. Danny Levine, the other news editor, resigned from the paper at the end of last term in order to continue his work as chairman of the U.N. study group.

Argus elections are held at the beginning of each term. his gives more members of the staff a chance to have the experience of being an editor.

15 IN NAT'L HONOR SEMIS

Fifteen seniors, all National Honor Society members, achieved high scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude tests and therefore are semi-finalists in the competition for National Honor Society Scholarship award.

Out of a membership of 55, 548 students, 2,530 members of the society qualified as semi-finalists. A composite score of at least 204 on the PSAT's was necessary. The highest score on the examination was 234.

The Midwood seniors who achieved semi-finalist status are: John A. Colucci, Matthew Cooper, Howard Feit, Robert A. Ginsberg, David Goodman, Sidney Hurmann, Jane L. Kahn, Joseph R. Kendler, Marc Levine, Kenny Mazlen, Carroll O. McGorky, Peter R. Melnick, Matthew G. Sheinin, Abby R. Wettan, and Roger Wolfert.

The National Honor Society offers seven types of scholarships totaling $33,000. They are: one $4,000 Paul E. Elickir Scholarship ($1,000 per year for four years); one $1,500 A. L. Oliver Scholarship ($500 per year for three years); four $1,000, two $500, and ten $100 Boeing People to People Scholarships (which include a trip to Europe for the boy and girl who won one of the $1,000 scholarships), and there are also four $500 Scholastic Roto Scholarships.

An Apple for Aaron Shapiro

By ELLEN BERMAN

The Grand Street Boys Foundation recently honored Mr. Aaron Shapiro, teacher of mathematics at Midwood, by selecting him as one of New York City's "dedicated teachers."

Mr. Shapiro

The foundation paid homage to one hundred teachers at its First Annual Award Luncheon on Saturday, January 16. These teachers "serve as a symbol of the dedication of thousands of teachers in the New York City school system." Those honored received illuminated scrolls and symbolic apples at the luncheon. Ten won special prizes of five hundred dollars.

Mr. Shapiro feels that "all teachers should receive an award, not just a chosen few." He stated that "I should like to see a dedicated society, a society dedicated to education—a society that recognizes the outstanding contribution of all teachers by paying them adequate salaries."

Mr. Shapiro is the faculty advisor for the Midwood Math Team. He also instituted at Midwood and has been running with excellent results the advanced level college course in mathematics.

The committee which selected the hundred was headed by Dr. Gabriel R. Mason, retired principal of Abraham Lincoln High School. All others in the selecting group were also former educators.

Teachers from all over the city were nominated for this award by their respective principals. They were not selected according to any geographical distribution. Candidates chosen come from elementary schools and junior highs as well as senior high schools.

PressCouncil Meets; StudentsQueryHuss In Sample Interview

By HARRIET WARSHAUER

Neil Himes, the vice-president of the High School Press Council, and Mary Basta, editor-in-chief of the "Wingate World," interviewed Pierre Huss at the council's January 6 meeting in the N. Y. School of Printing. Mr. Huss is the N. Y. Journal-American's correspondent to the United Nations.

After the interview, Norman Sleeper, the Journal-American's city-hall columnist, analyzed the interview and gave the student journalists some points on feature interviewing.

This interview was arranged by the press council's "Committee for a Journalistic Workshop Program" with the Journal-American. The "Journal" is the only N. Y. City paper that collaborates with the High School Press Council in this respect.

Midwood Reviews Fabulous Fifties In Last Dance of Term

By JOYCE LIEBERMAN

The City of Midwood held the second dance of the semester Saturday evening, January 16, in the girls' gym. The affair, called, "The Fabulous Fifties," was a musical revue of the past decade.

The recreation commission, led by Alan Katz, planned and supervised the dance. The entertainment included two bands: The Tone Kings, consisting of students from Midwood, Lafayette, and Grady Vocational High School, and the Rock-a-Tones, a group from Midwood. Jonny Alvarez, a former Midwood student, sang and played the guitar.

When asked why he decided to have so much entertainment, Alan Katz replied, "Entertainment is an attempt to change the mode of the dance and create student interest."

The first dance of the term, "The Sputnik Spin," took place on a Friday evening and was attended by 250 students. The Fifties' Dance, however, occurred on a Saturday evening. When asked about this Alan answered, "We chose the Saturday evening date, because of the numerous requests of Midwood students for a dance that would not conflict with their Friday night activities."

At the end of the dance a number of students participated in a lindy contest. The winners received a popular record.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

In several weeks, Midwood students will choose from among Roy Campanella, Jack Twyman, and Doctor Thomas Dooley, the one whom they feel should become the recipient of our annual Franklin Delano Roosevelt Brotherhood award. This honor is given in recognition of contributions made by the individuals in the past year, to further the cause of brotherhood, and tc promote the ideals of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The first brotherhood award, given in 1946, was regarded with a great deal of interest and importance. The candidates and final recipient were carefully and intelligently selected. The necessity for brotherhood and for mutual understanding—among all peoples, were realized after the terrible horrors of **World War Two.**

Today many students are noticeably apathetic about the award. They fail to listen to information concerning the qualificatons of the candidates; yet, they feel able to vote for and elect one.

In addition to this indifference towards our brotherhood award, similar apathy can be noted in the observance of Brotherhood Week. Several students we asked, were not even able to tell us the month in which it is commemorated each year.

Recent outbreaks of hate and violence throughout the world have made many of us sit up and take notice at last of this crucial state of affairs. As the desecration of cemeteries, libraries, churches, and synagogues has spread over the globe, many people have begun to realize once again the necessity of continuing the fight against all hatred and bigotry.

We are fortunate that hte rash of violence, which has swept over the world, has not openly occurred in our immediate neighborhood. We yet, we must realize that these threats are present even in the sociey in which we live. They must **be stopped!**

We can not sit back and wait until we are personally faced with this problem to try to solve it. By such time, it will be much harder to control.

We can take several steps towards this goal by choosing carefully and intelligently the recipient of our Franklin Delano Roosevelt annual Brotherhood Award. We should also observe Brotherhood Week not only during the specially delegated week in February (21-28) but during every week throughout the year.

RUTH WALLACH

MIDWOOD ARGUS

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Dr. Jacob L. Bernstein, Principal

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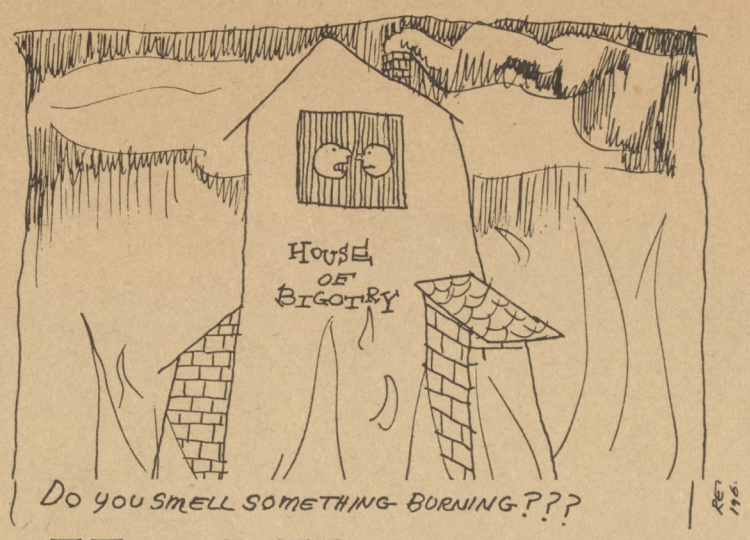


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor of the Midwood Argus:

In previous terms, students had no knowledge of their final marks before receiving their report cards. This term, however, teachers were instructed to reveal to the students their marks on the last day of the term.

I feel, that this new regulation is unnecessary because most students are well aware of the mark they deserve and the chances of clerical errors are few. Early mark-telling instigates students who are never satisfied with their grades to pester teachers for higher marks.

For these reasons, conveying marks to students before they receive their report cards is a waste of valuable teaching time.

Jo Ann Frankel

To the Editor of the Midwood Argus;

Recently Argus editors have threatened to abolish the "Letters to the Editor" column. We are sure we have the students' backing in believing that the City of Midwood is a democratic organization. To further student participation a means of communication is required. I am at a loss to see how this is possible without a "Letters to the Editor" column.

Barbara Russi, 379A

Mayor's Desk

In the last issue of the Argus, I proposed an (unproctored) Honor System plan for taking tests. I have since received many favorable and unfavorable comments on this plan. In this Mayor's Desk, I hope to justify my viewpoint and describe the way an Honor System might work.

We have almost all, to some extent, participated in that cheating in Midwood; "mea culpa." But when we look at cheating objectively, and when we are able to see that the purpose of education is to teach—not just reward—it becomes clear that a student who cheats cheats merely himself. Not only is cheating dishonest, but practically (and Midwood students are especially fond of that which is practical) it leads to greater deceit and eventual discovery—either at the hands of a teacher or in the eyes of classmates. The Honor System is an attempt to create honesty and self-respect which a student will be proud to perpetuate.

I think that this plan, on an experimental basis could be introduced in certain college level and honor classes in the senior and, possibly, junior years. The approval of not only Dr. Bernstein but the department chairman, the teacher and the pupils of each class would be a necessity. Simply put, a class taking a test under the Honor System would be placed on its honor not to cheat. No teacher would proctor the test.

I honestly am not at all sure of the feasibility of an Honor System But I do feel that it should be given a chance on a limited scale to prove, itself as a possible principled solution to student cheating.

PETER MELNICK

Principal's Message

Dear Boys and Girls:

You have recently elected a new slate of officers in the City of Midwood for the next semester. This election is meaningless unless it is accompanied and followed by two things: 1. A spirit of cooperation on the part of the general student-body—the citizens in our little community; 2. A knowledge, an interest, and a watchfulness, on the part of most citizens, which provide the basis for holding elected officers to their promises and appraising the results of their leadership. These are fundamental responsibilities of citizenship, just as necessary outside the school as they are inside. Without them, the mere exercise of the privilege of suffrage will not render democracy responsive or effective.

Your duty is therefore not ended with the marking of a ballot. As a citizen you must pay your dues or taxes in order that government may have the necessary financial support for its programs and projects. You must participate loyally and actively in the support of activities sponsored by student government. You must, at all times make it your business to know what is going on, make suggestions through your class presidents, and check up on students upon whom you have imposed the responsibility of leadership.

What I am saying can really be summed up in the thought that, in a democracy, you get just about the kind of government you deserve.

I congratulate the boys and girls who are about to assume office. They will, as always, receive my cooperation and support. How successful their administration will be, however, is largely up to you. With your loyal and informed cooperation, student government should serve you with increased effectiveness.

Sincerely yours,
J. L. Bernstein
Principal

We Regret . . .

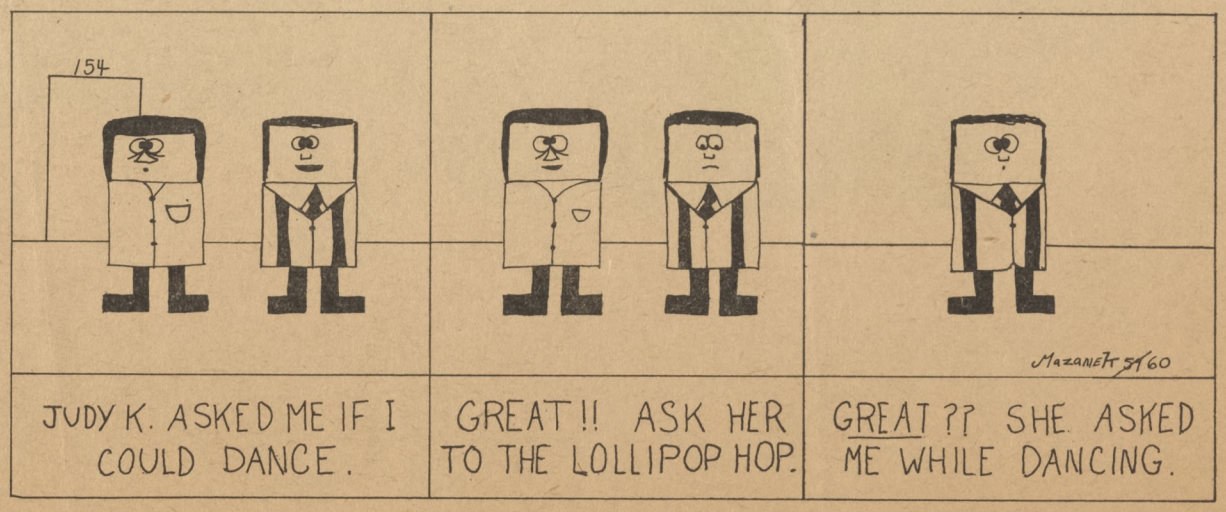
Argus extends its deepest sympathies to Mr. Andre Humbert, teacher of the foregin language department, whose sister, Mrs. Gabrielle Huard passed away recently.

Our condolences to Jeffrey Merrill, a Midwood senior, upon the death of his mother, Mrs. Pearl Merrill.

Mrs. Merrill was president of the Child Guidance League,

The World of William J.

W. J. MAZANEK



Meet Your Teacher

One day last year, a boy ran out of his first period class, which had begun at 7:40. His teacher, Mr. Kostman, soon caught up with him in front of the school building where he found the boy shaking a tree. He asked the boy why he was shaking the tree and the boy replied, "No bird is going to sleep when I'm awake!" This little story is one of a repetoire of anecdotes told to his eager classes by English and Hebrew teacher Mr. Samuel Kostman.

New York-born Mr. Kostman attended Brooklyn College, Columbia University, and Yeshiva University. Still attending Brooklyn College after 13

Mr. Kostman

years(!), he considers himself a professional student. "I'm a slow learner," he says.

Mr. Kostman teaches because he enjoys working with young people; he also assists the student government of Midwood serves as head counselor of Camp Everett during the summer, and has worked in youth centers.

Married, and father of two daughters ages two and four, he enjoys a few hobbies. Reading "anything that's printed," especially novels, plays, and material on Judaic subjects are his favorites. Because he is a Hebrew teacher, Mr. Kostman also reads a great deal in Hebrew which includes at least one newspaper a week. Although inclined towards classical and folk music, he is currently developing a taste for Dixieland jazz. "I'm not an expert, I just enjoy listening." Another hobby of his is taking long walks "anywhere."

About Hebrew and English, Mr. Kostman says, "Each has certain values. Teaching two different languages keeps me mentally alert." He likes all students "believe it or not." However, he feels "the most exciting student is the one sincerely interested in learning for learning's sake."

One of his biggest accomplishments was the setting up and the teaching of Midwood's course in world dramatic literature. Says one of his students, "It's impossible to find anything dull in Mr. Kostman's class." Besides the regular class curriculum he also encourages and takes his classes to see movies, plays, and other presentations which come to New York.

When he first began teaching in Midwood Mr. Kostman was mistaken for a student. "On my first day of classes a teacher tried to herd me into his room with the rest of his students while I tried feebly to tell him who I was. I finally succeeded in convincing him, in a small, quaking voice, that I was the teacher of the class next door."

JoAnn Frankel

Our Town: NEW YORK DOCK AREA VISITED; INTERIOR OF GREAT LINER SEEN

On a grey day that seems to have lent the water a part of its sombre color, one would expect the activities at New York Harbor to slow down if not cease altogether. However, feverish activity appears to be continuing, despite the bleak sky and freezing temperature.

In passing the piers of the various steamship companies, one sees the porters busy with the piles of luggage arriving at the pier. Taxis drive up, discharge their passengers, and then whizz off again. Great ships loom up ghostlike out of the mist, as the greyish-green waves splash restlessly against the edge of the piers.

Most of the docks contain the smaller cargo and steamships, but at the French Line quay, the Liberté is in port, and the S.S. United States lies alongside at the American Lines. It is sailing day for the 'Queen Elizabeth' at the Cunard Line pier a block north. For fifty cents, one may tour the ship as a visitor, the donation going to the Seamen's Fund.

The ship is entered via a long ramp, and immediately the long corridors of staterooms, vast dining rooms, and luxurious accommodations for first class passengers, surprise one by their almost hotel-like appearances.

On deck are the suspended lifeboats and closet tucked life preservers, the winding staircases marked 'crew only.' I glance downward into the icy water below. "All ashore, that's going ashore!" The visitors must leave.

It is almost sailing time, now, and latecoming passengers rush down the pier, coats and bags trailing, a porter close behind each one. Passengers stand on line to get their tickets and passports checked, impatient to be on the boat.

Tugboats bearing the names of 'Cape Ann' and 'Sweet Marie' on their scarred sides, prepare to escort Her Majesty. Soon she is sailing down the river, the skyline fading behind her, a graceful sea-bird soon to be at home in deeper waters.

Zisla Taice

Midmoods... JUNE MALAMENT

I wonder why I can never manage to be any place exactly on time?

Every day I arrive in school during the interval between the warning bell and the late bell, and invariably I am late for appointments. You probably know somebody like me. He's the one who dashes madly onto the train station half an hour late, grins sheepishly at you, and mumbles, "I'm really sorry I'm late but . . ." In my case the pitifully unbelievable saga which follows is true. As atonement for my crimes, I confess to the entire ludicrous set of circumstances which are forever detaining me.

I am always on the bus which breaks down, the train which catches fire, the car which has a flat tire; it is in my house that the fuses blow, the phone goes dead, relatives drop in unexpectedly, and there are never any clean socks. In addition, I have been locked out of my own house, locked inside the bathroom, and stuck in the cement with which the street was being paved. There is no doubt that I am cursed; the Fates are working against me and yet I know not why.

Sometimes, I think that I, myself, must cause these things to happen. Maybe there is some subconscious psychological desire within me to be late. Think of all the forgiving reassurances I receive from sympathetic friends. Think also how the needs for distinction and individuality are fulfilled by the recognition I achieve because of my tardiness! (I am known for having set some sort of record for this.) Or perhaps I am still rebelling against the monotony of my distant childhood, when my mother insisted that I go to bed promptly at 7:00 every night?

Whatever the cause of my problem, it has resisted treatment and cure. The last desperate hope remaining to me is that it will be my destiny to marry a tall, dark, punctual man who will not be able to tolerate lateness. My love for him will reform me, and we shall be on time together happily ever after. Or shall we?

WHO DIGS FOREIGN CARS? EVERYONE BUT CADILLAC!

If you have very good eyesight, you're probably aware of the increasing number of small foreign cars which are invading the country. Americans from all walks of life are snatching them up as soon as they come into port.

This current rash of foreign cars is not merely ruining the big-car industry, but is frustrating those forlorn fathers of five who gaze at them for hours trying to figure out how many of their brood could fit in the engine without impairing the car's performance.

The forte of the midget cars is their universal appeal. They are especially popular with tall girls wanting to appear petit, petit fellows wanting to appear brawny by comparison, medium-sized people wanting to keep up with their misshapen friends, the poor who want to appear rich, and the rich who want to appear poor.

The little cars run the gamut from conservative black and beige to striking fuscia and assorted lipstick colors. Ivy-Leaguers can choose from several striped and Black Watch plaid models which have spare tires buckled on the back. (a real asset: strap facilities lifting the car into or out of tight parking spaces)

To get into a small car requires perseverance and practice. After a few months, one can become quite adept in comfortably (?) settling himself into a driving position. Once the dashing entrance is mastered, one is ready to try for the neat and quick exit. This has proven to be the more difficult task. Many owners gave up after a few hundred futile attempts at a graceful disengagement.

Were it not for the mitigation of this one great flaw in the small car's make-up, it would have disappeared long ago, despite all its other endearing qualities. The small-car manufacturers, however, have saved their industry by sheer quick thinking—they have included a can opener as standard equipment for all their cars.

Carol Amato

Bagpipe Fan Evicted

I am being evicted from my home. I am being evicted from the warm, cozy, four room apartment where I live with my father, mother, and brother. I am being thrown out of my home-sweet-home by the mutual consent of my father, mother, brother, neighbors, landlord, and superintendent.

Why? It's all because I've developed a passion for bagpipes. Actually, when I first encountered the recorded regal pipes and drums of Scotland, I was not exactly overcome by enthusiasm; their melodies sounded wierd and discordant to my un-Highland-geared ears. It is rather disconcerting to walk from room to room, eat, and talk, to the tune of Scots' army drill.

Perhaps I didn't appreciate the bagpipes at first because I hadn't the proper background. My appreciative comrades were all army men and were either Scotch, British, or Irish minded; two of them played the pipes, two of them played the drums. All of them marched in kilts on special occasions up and down the hall of their uptown apartment, playing strange eerie tunes of war, love, and patriotism.

Their neighbors had looked upon themselves as privileged to have such unique instrumentalists within earshot. Affectionately, they labeled the fervent fans of regiments gone by . . . "The Scotch-Irish banjo-players." Yes, THEIR neighbors were sensitive people.

. . . After frequently hearing pipes and drums, and after being guest at a special performance, I, too, rallied to "the cause." I soon found that I felt inclined to march whenever I heard the inspiring sounds which I had first associated with caterwauling cats. I would stand up as though hypnotized and move my feet as though changing guard at Balmoral Castle.

One fateful day, I burst into my home (from which I am now being evicted), with my arms full of Scots regimental records. I put them on the phonograph, turned the volume all the way up, and eagerly sat down to listen. The effect was tremendous. In rushed my parents; in rushed my brother; in rushed the Joneses, and the landlord.

Over and over again, I explained that either they keep me with bagpipes or lose me altogether . . . So now I'm being evicted . . .

Barbara Weiner

ST. VALENTINES DAY TALE RETOLD

She rose from her chair as I came in, and crossed the room to greet me. She was a little woman, short and dumpy. Her dress was of silk adorned with lace, and a ruffled cap covered her head. In all, she was a picture of a 16th century lady. And, indeed, that is what she was.

"I am from the middle ages," she said curtsying. "You expressed a wish to interview me?"

I nodded. "Now, then," she commenced. "You want to know something about St. Valentine's Day? Ask your questions!"

"I know," she continued. "How did St. Valentine's Day begin? We ladies of the middle ages held court for our suitors on this day. But the holiday is much older than the middle ages. It was named after Valentine, a Roman who befriended the Christian martyrs persecuted by the Emperor, Claudius II. For this he was arrested, beaten with clubs and finally beheaded on February 14, 270 A.D."

As quickly as I could, I noted down the information. "Years later Pope Julius erected a church in Valentine's honor. The church now stands at the Porta del Popolo which was known as the Porta Flaminia in ancient Rome."

After listening to her narrative, I inquired, "But what has this to do with St. Valentine's Day, a holiday for sweethearts and love?"

"That's simple," she replied. "The 14th of February is the festival of Februta Juno, a pagan celebration of love. Although the people were no longer pagans, they continued to celebrate this holiday and influenced the Roman Church to take over the festival."

"Why was it named after St. Valentine?" I asked, still unable to comprehend the connection.

"Because he was beheaded on that day, giving his life for the love of all people. Sweethearts are people, aren't they?" she added.

I had to admit that that was true. She smiled. "And it's a beautiful holiday, so enjoy it." And I had to admit that this, too, was true. *Ellen Green*

SINGSTER REFLECTS NOSTALGICALLY THE MANY DEFINITIONS OF "SING"

Sing . . . what is it? It's four classes working for months in competition against each other. It's the hours of rehearsal spent perfecting a performance that lasts only forty-five minutes.

It's the students of Kensington experiencing their first Sing and working hard at something many have never seen before.

It's the sophomores—the group that made up last year's Kensington Sing. They now know what Sing is, and work all the harder because of this.

It's the juniors who have had two years experience and feel that this can be the winning Sing for them as it was for the two previous junior classes.

It's the seniors, torn between the desire to attend rehearsals, and the need to go home and study for upcoming college boards. The only group in this show that has ever won Sing, they so want to be victorious again.

It is a spirit that permeates the classrooms and somehow distracts the students from being able to concentrate fully. And it is with some understanding that the teachers realize they cannot compete with Sing.

It's the mounting tension as you arrive at the Brooklyn Academy, and wait in the dressing rooms. It is the throbbing in your heart as the whistle blows, and your chairman tells you, "All right, line up! And be quiet or we'll lose points." It is the long wait behind the closed curtain wondering if Mrs. Tillis will ever announce your Sing in the wonderful way that only she can. Finally it is the excitement as the curtain opens, the audience applauds, the piano starts the tune of the opening song, and you begin to sing your heart out.

On Saturday it is with good sportsmanship that you view the other Sings and applaud them with deep sincerity. Later, it's the unbearable wait for Mrs. Tillis to announce the decision of the judges. Afterwards, Sing is something of the past, and the losing singsters say with a good-natured shrug, "Maybe we'll win next year!"

It's the kids singing their songs all the way from the Academy to Cooky's or Wulfie's.

What is Sing? It's the greatest activity Midwood can offer its students, and certainly one whosememory you will cherish in your hearts long after your high school days have ended.

Alumnews

Stephen Jacobs, class of '55, is working for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Langley Field, Virginia. He received his mechanical engineering degree from Pratt Institute in 1959.

Richard Weiss, June '56, who is attending the Columbia University College of Pharmacy, is engaged to Audrey Messinger, a former Jefferson student.

Ellen Rother, Jan. '59, and Arthur Schlass, June '56, have announced their engagement.

Gail Staffer, a June '56 graduate, was awarded an under-graduate research associateship at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Naomi Lee Raphael, Midwood '55, and Barnard '59, has announced her engagement to John Lorant. A June wedding is planned.

Michael Varet, June '58, was recently named to the Dean's List at the University of Pennsylvania. He also received a Freshman Scholarship Award at a luncheon given by Beta Gamma Sigma, the national honor society of business colleges. The award was given to the ten highest ranking students in the Freshman class for the academic year 1958-59.

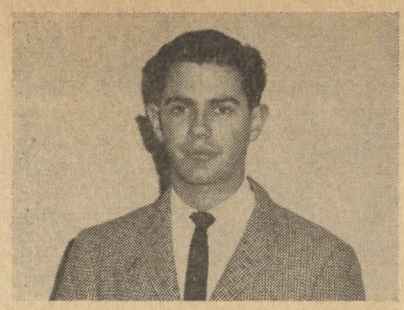
The Chicago Herald Tribune presented a citation to Bart Palamano as an outstanding student in Air Science.

SPOTLIGHT: DAVID SOSKIS

With an Amherst acceptance in his pocket, David Soskis has now a clear perspective of the road ahead. David's road is not the only one he is concerned with. As editor-in-chief of the social studies department's publication, "Road Ahead," he has a good opportunity to deal with other people's plans as well. Eventually David intends to make his profession "dealing with people and research work"—teaching or psychiatry will be this ultimate goal.

David is one of those rare students who enjoys all his subjects. Since French and English are his two favorites, he is enrolled in college courses in these subjects. Besides maintaining a fine average in his studies he has also received a commendation for the Merit Scholarship Exam.

On the basis of his academic record alone, one would think this pleasantly personable young man spends all his time with books. But David manages



David Soskis

to include such varieties as riflery, music, and magic among his other activities. A sharpshooter for the Midwood rifle team, David spent last summer as a counsellor teaching marksmanship skills to campers. David's musical inclinations have led him to a spot in the Midwood Band, where he plays trombone.

And now you ask, "Is there still more?" Yup, Dave is also the current boy leader of Archon and an Arista member.

Offering his opinion on the controversial topic of student government policy, he stated that there is no "really fair" way to elect the ones best qualified for the job and still have everyone actively participating in school politics.

David displayed an excellent aptitude for salesmanship when given the chance to make some personal comment.

"Don't forget to tell them," he uttered emphatically, "to buy Road Ahead."

Ronnie Gardner

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Sportlight

When the whistle blew that ended Midwood's first winning football season this past term, gridiron captain Mitch Garter was the happiest boy in the world.

Ever since the day he had scored his first touchdown with "the guys on the block," Mitch Garter, like so many Midwood athletes before him, became hopelessly addicted to the exciting game of football. It was this intense interest, coupled with his heavy build and natural athletic ability, which prompted him to join the football team as a sophomore. Since he was a comparative novice to high school competitive football, Mitch was placed on what must have seemed to him like the twenty-second string team. Only by sacrificing from two to three hours each day to his beloved sport, did he slowly move up the ladder to athletic recognition. As a junior, he made the team as left tackle. Even then, only in his wildest dreams did he imagine that someday he would be head man for Midwood High School's eleven.

In addition to being captain of the football team, possessor of several major football letters, and winner of the best linesman of the year award, Mitch has another athletic interest. He is now active on the track team, participating in the shotput event.

Contrary to the well known proverb "all brawn and no brains", Mitch finds time to open a book and his eighty-nine average proves it. He's proud of his mastering of the three R's and especially of the fact that he is now taking difficult calculus Math.

Mitch's interests in addition to sports and school work are stamp collecting,

Mitch Garter

music, reading, and Midwood's mixed chorus. In this last activity, he has been elected as president for the forthcoming term. He modestly attributes his election to the fact that the Midwood football team is and always has been well represented in the Midwood choral societies.

Mitch's future plans include college. He has already received his acceptance notice from the University of Maryland and is expecting replies from Princeton and the University of Michigan. As of now, he is unsure of his choice of career, but he thinks that he might like to apply his mathematical powers in working for the International Business Machine Corporation.

When Mitch Garter is graduated from Midwood High School this June, the football team will surely miss his determination and skill. If he should decide to play competitive football during his college career, this reporter is sure that this year's captain will present a real menace to any opposing lineman.

PETER FELDMAN

MIDDIE TRACK COACH UNCOVERS SHOT PUTTER

Phil Beyer, Midwood's talkative shotput artist, is not modest about his skill. He has a right not to be. Shotputting is a sport that requires year round training and great physical stamina. Being physically demanding and difficult to master its techniques make shotputting a sport lacking in popular support.

For those who do not understand the mechanics of shotputting, a brief explanation is in order. The main idea of shotputting is to put (heave) a 12 lb. shot (lead ball) the distance. The shotputter is given three chances, his best shot being counted for the event. The shotputter who heaves the shot the greatest distance receives five points, which is added on to the point total of his track and field team.

Phil, a five-foot nine-inch senior, first became interested in the physically exacting sport when he saw recordholder Parry O'Brien compete in a tournament in Brooklyn College. It wasn't until he entered Midwood, however, that he thought of it seriously. Coach Bill Eisenberg was quick to recognize the 200-pound athlete's potential and Midwood had its first shotputter in many years. Since that time, Phil has compiled a 6-1-0 record and is generally recognized as one of the better shotput artists in the PSAL competition.

Phil keeps in shape during the off season by lifting weights and skin-diving. The former gives him added strength in the arms and legs with the latter strengthening his lungs, and prepares them for the strain to be encountered during the track season.

In his first match, as a junior, the former football player put the shot for 38 feet, 1 inch, securing third place for himself, and adding two points to Midwood's score. In a match held later that year with Tilden, Phil recorded his greatest score, 42 feet, to cop first place.

Currently, the Middie star is training others in his difficult art and is eagerly awaiting the start of the track season.

Richie Dolinger

Knotty Problems

Two were out, the bases loaded and a 3-2 count on the batter. All runners were off with the next pitch. The batter struck out, but the catcher missed the ball, which lodged in the umpire's mask. Should these runs count?

Answer: Only one run counts. The ball is dead as soon as it lodges in the umpire's mask. The batter is awarded first base, and all runners advance one base. With first base occupied and with less than two out, the batter, of course, would be out on the strikeout.

* * *

There's a runner on second base, one out and a 1-2 count on the batter. On the next pitch, a sharp curve, the batter was fooled and it knicked his uniform. The catcher held the pitch, and the runner stole third on the play. What about it?

Answer: When a pitched ball touches the batter or his clothing, the ball becomes dead. However, since this was the third strike, the batter was out automatically and the runner would have to return to second.

Chem. Spills Physics As Dave Fink Scores

The school's prospective scientists proved that they were also athletically inclined by partaking in a well-played basketball game which slated the College Chemistry Class, instructed by Mr. Dorf, against the College Physicists. On Wednesday, December 23, the chemists proved to be a little too strong for the physics students and came out on the long end of a 37-31 score.

The game, which was organized by the students of the two classes, resulted from their enthusiastic desires to promote class unity. Mr. Weissman, the Chairman of the Physical Science Department and also the teacher of the College Physics Class, supervised the activity.

The chemists jumped out to a 5-0 lead early in the ball game. Never relinquishing the lead, they played a steady brand of ball throughout the encounter, and at one time led by as much as 14 points. Dave Fink, who was co-captain of the Cross Country Track Team, led the scoring for the victors with 16 points. The other boys who figured significantly in the victory were Andy Cederbaum and Bruce Miller scoring ten and six points respectively. Arnie Brokstein and Richie Lapin also played well for the chemists.

The physics students chose Jeff Gerstin to act as their captain. Jeff, whose strategy was to let as many of the boys play as possible, played quite a game himself. Also in the high scoring column for the physicists were Gene Gover and Jeff Merrill. Other boys contributing to the futile effort of the physics class to top the chemists were Dave Harris and Howard Feit.

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Hoopsters Take Four

Midwood's inexperienced but hard-fighting basketball team, after starting the season with a poor 1-5 record, bounced back to win, in succession, four of its next seven games.

The Mid-Five visited Tilden, on December 9, determined to get back in the winning way. However, it just never got started. It was Tilden's game right from the opening whistle, as they went on to an easy 65-57 victory. High-scorers for Midwood were Ted Fischkin, Peter Abby and Jerry Feinstein, with 10 points each.

Only two days later, when Midwood hosted Adelphi Academy, the Midmen stepped on the court a different team. Midwood took charge at the beginning of the game and never relinquished the lead, winning 50-43 behind Feinstein's thirteen points and Abby's twelve. This gave the Mid-Five the lift it needed for its four-game win skein.

Midwood next defeated Westinghouse, romping 78-36. In this game, Coach Fried played his lower termers a great deal in order to give them some much-needed experience. Ted Fischkin came out of this encounter high man with twelve points. Mike Cohen contributed eleven points to the Midwood cause.

Next to bow to the now sharp-playing Mid-Five was Grady. Abbey and Feinstein led the Midwood team to a solid 50-32 victory, scoring twelve and eleven points, respectively.

In the next game against Alexander Hamilton, Midwood seemed to show signs of slowing down its pace and eked out a 44-42 thriller. Peter Abbey and Walt Potterton pumped eleven points apiece through the hoop.

The team began the New Year with a game against traditional rival, Erasmus. In the first half of the game, Midwood looked like a sharp, fast-moving team. It was an exciting first half, with neither team able to break open the game. In the second half, however, the Erasmus team could do nothing wrong, and cracked the Midwood defense. The score read 68-45 at the final buzzer. Once again Abbey shared high scoring honors, this time with Roger Honig. Each clicked for nine points.

The erratic Midwood team had an almost impossible task facing it after the Erasmus affair. That was to defeat

Fischkin and Cohen Fight for Ball

Wingate, one of the city's finest teams. The Midwood quintet played solid ball, but couldn't stop the potent Wingate offense. Wingate won 67-45. Ted Fischkin was high man with ten points.

The best record the team can possibly put together is 10-8. However, coach Fried isn't that optimistic and had this to say, "I'm very happy with this season, inasmuch as it's a rebuilding year. I'm trying to give experience to as many up and coming ballplayers as I can. As far as our record goes, I predict a 9-9 season for us."

Steve Rosner

TRACKMEN START SEASON; MATMEN DRUB FRENCHIES

The Midwood track team began its 1960 campaign on January 13, at the State Armory. The boys matched their skills against high school teams representing several areas of the city.

Coach Eisenberg had this to report about the team's prospects. "The boys are capable of experiencing a great deal of success, if they are willing to work conscientiously. The team is hampered by the fact that it has only two lettermen back from last year's forces. However, I expect this lack of experience to be nullified to a large extent by the boys who have already acquired racing know-how in their service for the cross-country squad."

The team's strength is centered around the veterans, John Berzins and Arthur Morris. This twosome is supplemented by John McKenna and Bob Falk. The former served as captain for the cross-country squad. Other boys who have made the roster include David Rich, Charles Shed, Dee Tyson, Charles Randolph, Peter Mohr, Bill Feldman, Bill McCarthy, Mike Hammeroff, John McCarthy, Martin Feder, Barry Grossman, Jay Weiner, Mel Coda, and Al Rapport.

In the Gym Team's first meet this season, the gymnasts proved to be far superior to a weak Lafayette team. Midwood won by an overwhelming score of 57-33.

In the contest between Midwood and Lafayette, many Midwood Matmen turned in outstanding performances. Captain Tony Miller, who is one of the better all-around boys on the team, came in first on the mats. Ben Benigno took first place on the horse and Gus Floeting came in first on the high bar.

The fact that the gym team made a strong showing can be attributed to the number of fine performers in each field.

Some of the boys and their respective fields are: Tony Miller, Joel Daplan, Billy Horowitz, Joe Lupus, and Dave Anolik on the parallel bas; Co-Captain Xavier Marone, Tony Miller, Joe Schiavo, Gus Floeting, Jim McDona, Jim Mertough, Ira Bernstein, Larry Desz, Tony Scoze, and Bobby Bross, who came in first in last years all City Gym meet on the high bars, Joe Schiavo and Russ Brunetto on the ropes. On the mats there are Tony Miller, John Contento, Ed Cronstein, and John Taliercio and on the horse there are Bob Russell, Ben Benigno, and Alan Churnoff.

When asked about the prospects of this year's gym team, Co-Captain Xavier Marone replied "We have a very good team this year. We have an excellent chance of coming in first in the All City Gym Meet.

Pin Tourney Draws Hopeful Prospects

Midwood High School's first bowling tournament went into full swing on January 8th. Each portion is to be played every Friday at King's Lanes on Flatbush Avenue, under the supervision of Mr. Fred Kushnick.

One-hundred twenty-five bowlers are participating in the tournament which was closed to Midwood's Varsity Team. The tournament is designed strictly for the benefit of practice and for the possible picking of next year's bowling team. Each contestant will bowl nine games and the total of all these games will be his final score. Trophies will be awarded by King's Lanes.

Miss Ann Edell, instructress at King's Lanes, showed her high regard for this year's bowling team by stating, "I felt very confident that Midwood would have a terrific season and although they didn't quite live up to my expectations, they still bowled very well." A 9-3 record entitled the pinmen to enter the district finals but a loss there gave them a still commendable 9-4 record for the season.

The tournament will remain open for registration every Friday from 2:30 to 5:00 o'clock. There is still time for anyone to enter.

Kickoff

ROY MEYERS

Recently, I became engaged in a debate with a friend of mine from Erasmus. Taking the position of a typical cynic, he reiterated the standard charge that Midwood is a school of brains but little brawn. By this statement, he meant that Midwood is a school that suffers from an acute lack of sports talent and consequently, it has perennially losing teams. He supported this charge by pointing out that not one Midwood team has captured a division championship this term.

I couldn't let that insult to my school go uncontested. So, I started the argument by contending that the bowling team, for example, had tied for the lead in their division. Only a loss to Wingate in the playoffs cost them the title. I also pointed out that we had three men on the squad who had averaged higher than 160. He retorted by mentioning the pathetically poor record of our swimming team this year. His remarks put me on the defensive. Groping for an answer, I stated that this year had been a rebuilding year for the mermen. When I realized that this excuse failed to impress him, I added that some of the swimmers, such as Larry Bergman, had done an excellent job.

Forgetting about the swimming team, I continued the debate by pressuring him into admitting that our football team had come through with an outstanding record. I rubbed it in by reminding him that Midwood had beaten Erasmus this year, 14-8. He quickly shifted the subject from football to basketball and then proceeded to exploit the poor showing of the Midwood hoopsters. I reminded him that after a slow start, we had racked up four consecutive victories at one point. Indeed despite of the lack of a star, there are still many fine players on the team.

The two remaining sports were soccer and riflery. The riflemen's reputation for consistently fine seasons year after year was not marred by this year's squad. They once again came through with a winning record. The soccer situation, however, was different. I did my best to minimize the team's mediocre record by pointing to the many talented individuals who played on that team, such as Artie Amman and Howie Cohen.

By the end of the debate, he had modified his position. Reluctantly, he admitted that Midwood does have some fine sports material and some good teams. But, somewhere in the back of my mind an unanswered question still plagued me. Why, after all, didn't at least one of our teams capture a division crown? Could it be that our school is one of brains but little brawn?

* * *

The rifle team will appreciate it if all candidates wishing to try out for the squad report to Mr. B. Cohen in room 133 periods 4, 5, 7, 8, or Sam Schneider, room 133 period 6.

Top Middie Athletes Honored At Annual Awards Assembly

Athletes of Midwood were honored for their achievements in Midwood sports on January 6. In the annual awards' assembly, the outstanding members of the school's teams received their major or minor letters.

The recipients of the major letters on the soccer team were Co-Captains Artie Ammann and Howie Cohen, Dave Berner, Don David, Steve Gottlieb, Lior Grinberg, Bernie Hirschenfang, Ken Maylin, Joe Olewitz, Marty Schulman, Mike Silverstein, Tony Soyomenou, Barry Weiss, and Jeff Wolfsen.

Major letters for football were awarded to Co-Captains Mitch Garter and Mike Vulpis, John Clancy, Hugh Dash, Al Cickel, Mitch Eisenberg, Bert Flugman, Cecil Forster, Manager Hal Goldberg, Bill Higgins, Marty Halleran, Artie Kaufman, Bill and John McCarthy, Artie Morris, Jud Nelsen, Ted Poggi, Sandy Sorowitz, Monte Spellman, Jeff Starr, Art Ventura, and Mike Vulpis. Gold footballs were presented to Garter, Vulpis, Halleran, Morris, Flugman, Clancy and Goldberg.

The Bowling team awarded major letters to manager Mark Ames, Alan Appel, Don Block, Dennis Masse, Al Vladimir, Al Willinsky and Jerry Wolf.

The boys on the Middie rifle team who received major awards were Sam Schneider, the captain and Arty Morris, Co-Captain, Howard Altman, Bill Gralnick, Larry Roth, and David Soskis. The minor award recipients were Paul Feinstein, Jeff Bergstein, and Neil Goldman.

The Swimming team major letters went to Co-Captains Ken Jonas and Steve Weiss, and manager Teddy Lipsenthal. Other awards went to Larry Bergman, Barc Gene, John Colucci, Fred Goodman, Mike Gulobov, John Scannapisco, Steve Spern, and Stephan Strousberg.